

NOV 30 2006

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Virginia J. Byers  
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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.	10/603,049	Confirmation No.:	1884
Applicant	Charles S. Vann et al.		
Filed	June 24, 2003		
TC/A.U.	1743		
Examiner	Brian R. Gordon		
Attorney Docket No.	5010-345-01		
Customer No.:	35411		

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

November 30, 2006

Sir:

The attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the documents listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08a.

Petition is hereby made for consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement, which is being submitted after expiration of the three month period following filing of the above-captioned application, and after issuance of an Office Action on the merits, but before any final Office Action or Notice of Allowance.

The above information is presented so that the Patent and Trademark Office can, in the first instance, determine any materiality thereof to the claimed invention. See 37 CFR 1.104(a) and 1.106(b) concerning the PTO duty to consider and use any such information. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the documents cited in the attached Form PTO/SB/08a be made of record therein and appear on the first page of any patent to issue therefrom.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claim in this application and applicant determines that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under

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Information Disclosure Statement Dated November 30, 2006  
U.S. Patent Application No. 10/603,049

United States law, applicant reserves the right to present to the office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

Applicant further reserves the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

A Credit Card Payment Form covering the amount of \$180.00 for the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement is enclosed. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fee (or credit any overpayment) associated with this Statement to Deposit Account No. 50-0925.

Respectfully submitted,

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Enclosure: Form PTO/SB/08a (1 page)

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PTO/SB/08a (05-03)  
Approved for use through 04/30/2003. OMB 0651-0031

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO  <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b> (use as many sheets as necessary)				<b>Complete if Known</b>	
Sheet	1	of	1	Application Number	10/603,049
				Filing Date	June 24, 2003
				First Named Inventor	Charles S. Vann et al.
				Art Unit	1743
				Examiner Name	Brian R. Gordon
				Attorney Docket Number	5010-345-01
<b>U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number Number - Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		US-2004/0203174	10/2004	Jones et al.	
		US-2003/0228241	12/2003	Legge, Coulton Heath	
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		US-4,101,284	07/1978	Difiglio et al.	
		US-			
<b>FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document Country Code <sup>3</sup> - Number <sup>4</sup> - Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
					T <sup>6</sup>
Examiner Signature		Date Considered			

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup>Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup>See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup>Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached. Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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